

## LABORERS WANTED IN ALEXANDRIA

Difficulties of Securing Persons to Work in Plants In City.

## CITY'S VAGRANT ACT.

Chamber of Commerce Appeals to Mayor Fisher to Aid in Bringing About Better Conditions.

The Chamber of Commerce of this city, realizing that Alexandria is seriously handicapped by the impossibility in many cases of securing operatives for the growing number of manufacturing plants in this city, held a formal conference this morning for the purpose of devising ways and means of bringing about more satisfactory conditions and to augment the commercial importance of this city. To that end they determined to call on Mayor Fisher and urged upon him the importance of taking official action.

Mayor Fisher went over the question very thoroughly, and assured the committee that he would be glad to go into the matter fully and to co-operate with them in every way within his power, if he found that conditions warranted his doing so.

The committee presented the following letter to the mayor:

Alexandria, Va., May 16, 1913.  
Mayor Thomas A. Fisher,  
Alexandria, Va.

Dear Sir:—The Chamber of Commerce wishes to call your attention to the scarcity of labor now existing in Alexandria, and to say that we believe that a continuance of this condition will have a serious effect on our business in general.

We are of the opinion that a more rigid enforcement of our vagrant laws would overcome this condition to a great extent and ask your earnest co-operation in this direction, as we believe this action will have a splendid general effect on the conditions in our city.

Yours very truly,  
G. D. HOPKINS,  
Committee Chairman.

There is a growing demand for labor, and should the plants now in operation continue to be impeded in their outputs by the scarcity of labor, manufacturers will surely lag and dire results will follow.

There are men of both races in all cities who manage to escape the edict of nature, and refuse to work steadily. Alexandria has its percentage.

Many years ago, when manufacturers were on a small scale in Alexandria, a certain percentage of the population being unable to secure employment, much was said in the newspapers and at citizens' gatherings concerning home manufacture. It was suggested that in the northern portion of the country factories furnished work for old and young and of both sexes, and that such conditions should exist in Alexandria. This was practical reasoning, but a long time elapsed before the people of this city began to reap the fruits of the exertions of the more progressive citizens.

A score or more years ago an apron factory was put in operation at the foot of Queen street. For a short time the operators were enabled to get young people to work in the factory, but it soon became a problem as to how the machines could be kept constantly going. While there was no strikes, laziness seemed to have set in among those who had been employed and the enterprise was finally abandoned.

About the same time two canning factories were conducted. One enterprising firm leased a large tract of land near New Alexandria upon which tomatoes and other vegetables were grown, which it was their purpose to can. The promoters soon found themselves "up against it," as it was impossible to secure labor among the white element, although in one case a horse and buggy was used in the work. Colored people were finally employed, but eventually plant went down.

The shoe factory, laundry and other places are always in need of help, as

is the case with the silk mill, while it is a chronic complaint with the proprietors of the glass plants, that they are unable to secure labor.

Merchants on the wharf are often forced to get laborers from Washington, while Alexandrians, white and black, are idling away their time and living at the expense of others. As is usually the case at the advent of warm weather, there is a scarcity in the labor market, and more trouble will be experienced this year.

## GUESTS AT MT. VERNON.

Distinguished Men and Women visit Washington's Estate.

Patriotic pilgrims from many parts of the country yesterday visited Mount Vernon, where the annual council of the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association is now in progress. The flag of the nation floated over the historic old mansion, and a company of 200 men and women gathered in the banquet hall and adjoining rooms for the annual luncheon, toasted the anniversary of the movement which saved the home of Washington, and which preserves it today as a national shrine. It is just 60 years since the appeal of Ann Pamela Cunningham, of South Carolina—"All women, help!" sent its wave of patriotic enthusiasm far and wide. Mount Vernon, as it is today, with all its ancient beauty, of park, garden, and lawns intact, and many of its homely possessions restored to their original settings, is the answer.

Among the guests yesterday were the last member of the Washington family born at Mount Vernon, Mrs. Eleanor Washington Howard, and her brother, Mr. Lawrence Howard. The former governor of Maryland, Mr. Warfield, and Mrs. Warfield, were also among yesterday's interesting guests. Mr. Warfield, who has just become a member of the advisory board, made some interesting additions to the historic possessions at Mount Vernon yesterday. One was a collection of visiting cards, including some of Mrs. Washington's, and Mrs. Livingston's, Mrs. McComb's, and Mrs. Morris', wives of men prominently identified with the government in its earliest days. Another gift donated by Mr. Warfield yesterday is a silhouette of Washington, presented by the original to "one George Miller, British consul general to the Southern provinces of America," as the quaint communication accompanying the gift testifies, in 1791, when Mr. Miller, accompanied by Mrs. Miller, making a tour of the provinces, "waited on the President at New York." Mr. Miller, with conscientious minuteness, designates the silhouette as "the shade of a shadow," in other words, presumably, a copy of a silhouette. It is inclosed in an ebony frame, and was procured by Mr. Warfield from a collector in Scotland.

Miss Harriet Clayton Comegys, of Dover, Del., regent, presided at yesterday's luncheon and at the meeting preceding it. A number of the vice regents were present, including Miss Jane Riggs, of the District of Columbia; Mrs. Elizabeth B. A. Rathbone, of Michigan; Mrs. Francis S. Conover, of New Jersey; Mrs. Horace M. Townner, of Iowa; and Mrs. Eliza F. Leary, of Washington State.

Among others entertained yesterday in the room where Lafayette, Jefferson, and many other notables of Washington's day were frequently his guests, were the Secretary of Agriculture and Mrs. Houston, Mrs. Lawrence Washington, Senator and Mrs. Claude A. Swanson, Mrs. Horace Lurton, Mrs. Horace Van Devanter, Senator and Mrs. Willard Saulsbury, of Delaware; Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Nelson Page, Mrs. William Cumming Story, Col. Hilary A. Herbert, Representative Horace M. Townner, Representative and Mrs. Humphrey, of Washington; Representative and Mrs. Slayden, of Texas; Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Brice, Miss Sweet, daughter of the Assistant Secretary of Agriculture; Mrs. Campbell, of Michigan; Mrs. Julian James, and Col. and Mrs. Parker, and Miss Parker, of South Carolina.

## SUIT FOR DAMAGES.

The Circuit Court for the City, Judge J. B. T. Thornton, was engaged today in hearing the case of William Power vs. Joseph Hayman, a suit for \$4,000 damages alleged to have been received in a collision of automobiles a short distance north of this city on the night of November 12th. Arguments began this afternoon.

## 400,000 POUNDS AUSTRALIAN MEAT

First Shipment of Frozen Product Reaches San Francisco.

## A NOMINAL PROFIT.

Immediate Fall in Prices Expected—Four Refrigerator Ships to be Used in Service.

San Francisco, May 16.—Four hundred thousand pounds of frozen Australian beef and mutton—the first shipment of its kind to the Pacific coast—are being unloaded here today from the steamer Tahiti. The meat was sold in Australia with the understanding that only a nominal profit should be made here. If the agreement is violated Australia will ship direct, eliminating the middlemen's profit and assuming all the risk. An immediate fall in prices is expected. California and the Pacific coast states eat meat raised west of Rocky Mountains, and comparative tables show that the average of prices is higher here than in Chicago.

The Union Steamship Company is so certain that the trade will be permanent that it has placed orders for four refrigerator ships, to be used exclusively on the Australia-San Francisco run.

There was more discussion in Government circles yesterday regarding the possibility of Argentine packers transferring their fight with the larger packers from England to America, which has been forecast in cable dispatches. Belief that if this were done the beef interests would have to cut prices considerably was again expressed.

## PROPOSALS FOR COAL.

Committee on Lights Meets Last Night, But Postpones Awarding Contracts.

According to announcement, the committee on light of the City Council met last night in the office of the clerk of gas in the Market Building, when proposals for furnishing coal for the gas works were opened in the presence of the bidders. Fourteen proposals were received.

The committee deferred awarding contracts until a future meeting.

The Barrett Manufacturing Company, of Philadelphia, which is at present purchasing the tar, was awarded the output for the coming year.

## BLACK CAT HALTS MARRIAGE.

Girl Regards Feline as Ill-Omen as Auto Race From Father Ends.

Wellsburg, W. Va., May 16.—A gaunt alley cat, as black as night, was the cause of bitter tears and the indefinite postponement of a "love match marriage" here Wednesday night, when Harry Sanderson, a young coal operator of Dawson, Pa., driving a big car, had outdistanced the machine driven by the father of his fiancée, Julia Albright, and with her was about to enter the home of the minister, where the ceremony was to be performed.

Sanderson and the bride had a good hours' start on Henry Albright, the girl's father. Just a few minutes before the court house closed yesterday, the big car, containing Sanderson and Miss Albright, halted in front of the building and the young couple hurriedly secured a license, young Sanderson telephoned to a minister known to him, and made the arrangements for the marriage.

Hurriedly entering the big car, Sanderson and his fiancée were but a few minutes reaching the home of the clergyman. Both had alighted on the sidewalk and were about to step on the front porch of the minister's house, when a big black cat, dashed directly in front of them, hesitated a second, and then scampered away.

Instantly Miss Albright was in tears. Bemoaning the cat's act as an ill-omen, she refused to enter the house or have the ceremony performed. Sadly young Sanderson turned his car and headed back to Dawson.

## J. Wm. MAY TO RUN. Aspires to High Office in State Council of Red Men.

On Wednesday morning, June 21, the 67th Annual session of the Great Council of Virginia Improved Order of Red Men, will kindle its council fire in Hampton. At this session some very important matters will be disposed of, chiefly of which will be the enacting of a law in accordance with an edict from the Great Council of the United States at its session held in Charleston, S. C., last September, which requires State Great Council to assume the responsibility of caring for their own orphans in their several reservations. The plan for caring for them however will not be changed, which is one of the best systems known namely that of placing these unfortunate little ones in private homes, where they will have every privilege of home training.

At this session Mr. J. William May of this City, and a past sachem of Seminole Tribe No. 35, will enter the race for Great Junior Sagamore, which is the most coveted plum within the gift of the Great Council, his being the stepping stone to the Chieftaincy of Great Sachem. Among those who will attend the session from here, are, A. D. Deaton, representative of Osceola Tribe No. 1; R. C. Sullivan, representative of Seminole Tribe No. 35; J. William May, past sachem of Seminole Tribe and W. S. Nicklin, past great sachem, and great representative to the Great Council of the United States. Miss Cora L. Pettit, will represent Silver Moon Council No. 26, Degree of Pocahontas, at the Great Council Session of this branch of the order, which holds its annual session, at the same time and place. They will leave on the Norfolk Steamer on Tuesday evening the 20th.

## ALEXANDRIANS HONORED.

Odd Fellows Return from Roanoke Trip Yesterday.

The Alexandria Council No. 1, Patriarchs Militant, members of the two lodges of Odd Fellows, and lady friends returned yesterday from the Annual Session of the order at Roanoke. The delegation spent one day at the Odd Fellows Home at Lynchburg and were delightfully entertained by Mrs. Acree, the Superintendent and the 140 children at the Home.

The Canton made a creditable display at Roanoke and were highly complimented and entertained by the public and members of the order while in the "Magic City."

The following Alexandrians were honored during the Session of the various branches of the order.

Wm. E. Latham, unanimously elected Representative to the Sovereign Grand Lodge from the Grand Encampment of Virginia.

P. M. Bradshaw, reelected Trustee of Orphan's Home, four year term.

D. R. Stansbury, named Chairman Finance Committee of the Grand Lodge.

Capt. W. L. Martin, elected Treasurer Department Council Patriarchs Militant.

C. Grafton Trenary, appointed Picket of State Department.

The next Annual Session will be held in Lynchburg, May 1914.

## BENEFIT WAS SUCCESS.

Hospital Board Extends Thanks For Courtesies.

The board of managers of the Alexandria Hospital desire to thank all who assisted in making a success of the play that was given in the Armory Monday night, for the benefit of the Hospital. Special thanks are tendered the following: W. Demaine and B. Wheatley for the loan of chairs; Capt. Frank Slaymaker, for the use of the armory; the Boy Scouts of Alexandria for their able assistance in many ways; the newspapers of Alexandria for their consideration in publicity work; the Barrett Press for tickets, R. M. Pettit of the Mount Vernon Stables, for use of wagons for transporting chairs and scenery, and to the young ladies that were so active in disposing of the tickets. About one hundred dollars was cleared from the entertainment, a full statement of which will be made later. The money is to be used for securing improved hospital facilities.

Steamed Hard Shell Crabs Daily at Rammel's Cafe.

## PRESIDENT FANS AWAY WAR CLOUD

Says Under no Circumstances is Japanese Situation Serious.

## GIVES LIE TO REPORTS.

United States Not Preparing For Possible War—Movement of Troops and Supplies Stopped.

Washington, May 16.—Whether to make immediate reply to Japan's original protest against the California anti-alien land owning law or to permit the present situation to await a more complete diplomatic interchange, following actual signing of the bill by Governor Johnson was the question discussed by President Wilson and his Cabinet today.

The President expected to have a conference with Secretary Bryan over the matter today, and it was believed that Ambassador China would call at the State Department for further informal discussion of his nation's protest against the measure.

Meanwhile every effort is being exerted by the government to give the lie to jingo reports that the "United States is 'preparing for possible war.'" In order that there may be no misconception placed upon the routine movement of troops or supplies, the President has directed that there be no such movement.

President Wilson insists that under no circumstances can the present situation be characterized as "serious," that the matter will be smoothed out in the ordinary procedure of diplomatic interchange.

## REMOVING OLD LAND MARK.

Wall Around Residence Northeast Corner of Cameron And St. Asaph Street.

Workmen were engaged today in removing the wall enclosing the yard of the residence at the northeast corner of Cameron and St. Asaph streets, Jeremiah H. Crilly, who recently purchased the property, will place an iron fence in its place. This wall is one of the oldest landmarks in Alexandria, having stood on that corner during the past century.

## SCHOOL GIRL VISITORS.

Party of 286 Visit Alexandria in Lieu of Class Day.

In place of the usual elaborate class day exercises a three-day pilgrimage through the city of Washington and points of historical interest nearby was begun yesterday by the 286 members of the June graduating class of the Girls' High School, Seventeenth and Spring Garden streets, Philadelphia. The students left Broad street station shortly before 9 o'clock yesterday morning in special train in charge of Dr. J. Eugene Baker, principal of the High School, and Conductor J. L. Lloyd.

Yesterday was spent by the young women in sight seeing about the national capital and in about trip to Mount Vernon, and Alexandria. Many tourists were in the city today.

## Officers Elected for the Year.

Mount Vernon Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution at its annual meeting yesterday afternoon at the residence of Mrs. J. Stewart Jamieson elected the following officers to serve for the ensuing year: Mrs. William J. Morton, regent; Miss Caroline Wise, vice regent; Miss Helen Calvert, recording secretary; Miss Margaret McG. Ashby, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Wm. B. Smoot, treasurer; Mrs. James E. Foster, registrar, and Mrs. Mary G. Powell, historian.

FOR SALE—Cozy dwelling 1935 Duke street extended. Good condition. Always rented. John D. Normoyle, cor. King and Royal street. 12 3t.

## LOCAL BREVITIES.

Capt. B. G. Goods has returned from an extensive trip through Canada. While away he attended the annual meeting of the Order of Railway Conductors of America in session in Detroit, Mich.

The management of the Dixie Air-dome will give a special feature bill tomorrow night with select music. One half of the proceeds will be donated to the Alexandria Hospital, so it is hoped that as many will attend the evening show as possible.

A final decree was entered in the Circuit Court for the city today in the case of Stella P. Mason vs. Claude E. Mason on statutory grounds.

J. D. Normoyle, real estate dealer, has sold for Philip Dwyer, to Mrs. Louisa Pullin a two-story brick dwelling house on the north side of Queen street, between Royal and Fairfax streets, known as 315 Queen street.

The Dramatic Club of the Episcopal High School, has arranged for the presentation of Goldsmith's comedy, "She Stoops to Conquer," which will be given the evening of May 23, in Liggett Hall, at that institution.

There will be no services held at the Jewish Synagogue tomorrow on account of alterations being made at the building. The Sunday school class will meet at the residence of Benedict Weil, 114 south St. Asaph street at the regular hour.

Alexandria Circle of Colonial Dames will hold an important business meeting this afternoon at the residence of Mrs. Wm. A. Smoot, at "Colross."

Potomac Lodge of Odd Fellows will hold a meeting tonight and confer the third degree of the order on two candidates and receive reports from the delegates who attended the recent State convention in Roanoke.

## HOSPITAL NOTES.

Mrs. W. S. Abbott, of Vienna, Va., is convalescent and will go home in a few days.

Mrs. G. T. Lattin will leave the hospital shortly.

Mrs. W. C. Unglaub, of Del Ray, is convalescing after an operation.

Born on May 12, to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Weisiger, of 208 N. Washington street, a daughter.

Mrs. Edward Stead left the hospital yesterday much improved in health.

Mrs. H. D. Stoyer and little son are doing well.

Mrs. A. F. Cliff is convalescent and will leave the hospital this week.

Mrs. Marshall was able to leave the hospital yesterday.

Mrs. L. C. Mitchell, of Lincoln, Va., left for home today much improved.

Mrs. P. A. Kersey, of Columbus St., is convalescing rapidly.

Little Julia Fletcher, of Duke St., operated on today, was able to go to her home.

E. T. Matthews is a patient at the hospital for a few days.

F. M. Watkins, who fell from the cross arm of a telephone pole, breaking his leg, is slowly recovering from his painful injuries.

## CATCHES 400-POUNDER.

Huge Sturgeon Caught at the White House Yesterday.

As is known, sturgeon, which was regarded as entering plebian menus in by-gone years, have recently become as scarce as whales in the Potomac. At one time a large specimen could be purchased for fifty cents; it now brings twenty cents a pound and is scarce at that price.

Captain C. L. McKenney, seems to have struck luck during the past few days, he having caught three ganoids. One was seven feet long, another nine and yesterday he captured a fine specimen, measuring eleven feet, and weighing four hundred pounds.

Captain McKenney sold the roe to a manufacturer at Liverpool Point for fifty dollars. It is used in the preparation of caviar. In olden times it was shoveled overboard at Fish-town or used as bait for anglers.

## MINISTERS DENY DOCTOR'S CHARGES

Retiring Moderator's Excoriation of Lazy Occupants of Pulpits.

## TRAITORS TO CHURCH.

Washington Pastors Indignant and Resentful at Allegations Made in Atlanta This Week.

Washington, May 16.—Ministers are not lazy, emphatically declare Washington's leading Presbyterian clergyman, in denial of allegations criticizing the clergy, made by Rev. Dr. Mark Matthews, retiring moderator of the Presbyterian General Assembly, at the annual session of the assembly, being held at Atlanta, Ga.

"A lazy minister is an infernal traitor to his church. Preaching is a business which is failing at present because there are many drones in the hive." These and other expressions, extracts from a general criticism delivered by one of the leading members of the American Presbyterian, have brought forth many pointed answers from local ministers of the creed and other clergymen.

"It is not so," said Rev. Dr. C. Ernest Granger, pastor of the Gunton Temple Memorial Presbyterian Church. "Men who enter the ministry expecting to have a soft snap are fooled nine times out of ten. The average drone in the ministry, like the average drone in business life, is an absolute failure, and gets out of the calling quickly. The survival of the fittest applies to the clergy as well as it applies to other walks of life. 'Such an extreme statement from a man who has held such a high position in the church is a surprise. I think it is without foundation.'"

Rev. Donald C. Macleod, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, also voiced emphatic denial of the charges made by the retiring moderator.

"I cannot agree with Dr. Matthews in any of his contentions regarding the slothfulness of ministers," said Dr. Macleod. "I think you will find more earnest men in the ministry, at least as many, as you will find in the business walks of life. True, you find lazy ministers, but to say that the average minister is lazy is to make an exaggerated and yellow statement."

Rev. Earle Wilfey, pastor of the Vermont Avenue Christian Church in answer to the criticism declares that clergymen, like school teachers, are overworked and underpaid.

"Absurd on the face of it," said Dr. Wilfey, concerning Dr. Matthews' allegations. "Of course, there are some ministers who take life too easy. But the average clergyman is to hard-working individual, whose nervous energy is being drafted continuously with problems of his congregation and the troubles and trials of members of his flock. Drones can be found in every walk of life, and are comparatively less numerous in the ministry."

## NEW STAND IN MARKET.

Corby Bros., through the efforts of their progressive manager, Wm. Jorg, are constructing one of the most sanitary up-to-date bakery stands in this section of the country. It is located in the northwest corner of city market, entrance and will be opened for business tomorrow, although some of the decorations have not been completed.

It is entirely in white sanitary wall coating, with tiling about the walls, and illuminated with a 400-candle power concealed lighting system. The attendants will be in uniforms of pure white. Every kind of product made by the Corby Bakery, will be sold there; also a fine line of pastry goods.

## ANNOUNCEMENT.

Dixie Aidrome.  
Benefit Alexandria Hospital  
Saturday 17th.  
Special Show. Special Music  
Admission 10c.